News Release

RBC announces exciting, new three-year partnership with Sport North

YELLOWKNIFE (June 17, 2008) – RBC announced today its exciting new partnership with Sport North. Over the next three years, RBC will invest a total of $165,000, through donations and sponsorship. The commitment includes title sponsorship of the Champions for Children Dinner and an annual donation of $25,000 to KidSport™.

The Champions for Children dinner is a fundraising event that was first held in 2006 and profiled Ron MacLean from Hockey Night in Canada, Dennis Hull, Chicago Blackhawk and 1972 Team Canada alumni and several Olympic and Paralympic athletes. The 2006 event raised $50,000 for KidSport™ and the High Performance Athlete Grant. In its second year, 2007, the event hosted the Edmonton Oilers rookies and the highlight of the night was the hot stove session with Oilers alumni Kevin Lowe, Kelly Buchberger, Craig MacTavish and Charlie Huddy. This event raised $50,356 for KidSport™ and Facilities for Kids.

"For over 60 years RBC has been demonstrating their support of athletes across Canada at the community and national level, and at the Olympic Games. Together with Sport North and KidSport™, we are excited to continue our support of kids and sport in northern communities," said Michelle Docking, North of 60 regional vice-president, RBC. "We understand the important role sport plays in children's lives in teaching our shared values of fairness, excellence and respect."

The Sport North Federation administers the KidSport™ program for the Northwest Territories. "We are very excited to be involved with RBC and the Champions for Children dinner. This partnership over the next three years will help to raise a substantial amount of funding and will go a long way to help break down the financial barriers that prevent some kids from participating in sport," said Doug Rentmeister of Sport North. Champions for Children chairperson, Doug Ashby, indicated that "the support that we have received from the community has been great. We are building on the excitement that was generated from the previous two dinners and anticipate this year's event to be equally successful."

The proceeds from this year's dinner will go to KidSport™. KidSport™ provides funding to kids from low income families so they can participate in community sport programs. KidSport™ brings sport and needy kids together - so all kids can play. Grants of up to $300 are available for kids, 18 years of age and under, and can be used to assist with sport registration fees, equipment and travel. Since 2001, KidSport™ has distributed $195,188 to 1,076 kids across the NWT.

In addition to RBC, the following sponsors have already confirmed their support for this year: Canadian North, Nunasi Corporation, Top of the World Travel and Tours, BHP Billiton and Media Works. Tickets for the dinner will be available at Top of the World Travel and Tours by June 25th.

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RBC is one of Canada's largest corporate donors, and contributed more than $82.8 million to community causes worldwide in 2007, through donations of more than $47.7 million, and an additional $35.1 million in sponsorship of community events and national organizations. In 2007, the company announced the RBC Environmental Blueprint, a formal roadmap outlining the company's environmental priorities and objectives, and the RBC Blue Water Project, a 10-year philanthropic program to support projects dedicated to water conservation, watershed protection, access to clean drinking water, and other water-related issues in Canada and around the world. In 2007, RBC was named Canada's top corporate citizen, and in 2008, was named one of the top 100 sustainable companies in the world.

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